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Musicians Absent from Community Band Participation.

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Abstract

Community music, activities for musicians to engage in a wide range of musical contexts (Higgins, 2012), exist when common attentiveness is shared by participants in a community of practice (Wenger, 1998). Community music happens primarily in ensembles, made mostly of volunteers, and can only perform when there are active participants. The purpose of this qualitative multiple case study (Creswell, 2013) is to investigate the almost absence of past participants in community bands. Six Low Active Participants (musicians who are active less than 6 months a year) were interviewed to describe their music making experiences during past community band participation. This study also included document collection and observations of both active and non-active community band musicians. Results indicated participants focus their involvement with musical engagement, ensemble appeal, organization practices, and motivating experiences.

Keywords: Adult Learning, Situated Learning, Community of Practice, Community Band, Music Making

Application of Your Project to Teaching

- Discussion of adult learning and how we can making music in community bands.
- Understanding the importance of musical engagement and motivating experiences.
- Consideration of how ensembles have appeal due to organization practices.
- How we can understand a wide range of music making.